

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

The following message was received from his Excellency the Governor:

Executive Office,
April 7, 1897.

To the House of Representatives:

House bill No. 457, a special law, which seeks to amend the charter of the city of Waco, is herewith returned without approval. Section 57, article 3, of the Constitution, provides that no local or special law shall be passed unless notice of the intention to apply therefor shall have been published in the locality where the matter or thing to be affected may be situated, stating the substance of the contemplated law, for thirty days prior to the introduction of such bill. The only notice published as a basis for this bill was that application would be made to amend section 1 of the charter of the city of Waco so as to change the boundary lines of said city in certain specified particulars. The bill is entitled an act to amend sections 1 and 21 of the charter, and not only amends section 1 pursuant to the notice, but materially amends section 21, one of the most comprehensive and important sections of the charter, in matters wholly foreign to section 1 and the boundary lines of the city. The constitutional provision is intended to protect the people against changes in their local laws without notice to them, is plain and mandatory, has manifestly not been complied with in this case as to section 21 of the charter, and no alternative is left me but to disapprove the bill.

C. A. CULBERSON.